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Sent: 1/30/2018 10:45:23 PM

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Subject: The Administrator's Senate EPW hearing today

Susan, Larry, and Patrick,

The following is a summary of the Administrator's hearing today before the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

- The hearing did not raise any direct OECA enforcement concerns. Most of the hearing focused on the regulatory actions EPA has taken in the past year; chemical review processes under TSCA; how the Administrator is refocusing the EPA on its core mission; and a few questions regarding the President's FY18 budget proposal for Lead In drinking water, the Chesapeake Bay, and Superfund.
- The Administrator did not take a position on the budget questions, instead he deferred to Congress to set EPA's funding levels accordingly.
- The Administrator highlighted the benefits of ending the "Once In Always In" practice to incentivize investments and improvements in emissions.
- There were three Superfund sites mentioned during the hearing with the Administrator highlighting EPA's work at the San Jacinto and East Chicago sites, while Senator Gillibrand expressed concern over the 5 year review and clean up of the Hudson River.
- Senator Markey asked the Administrator to respond to his pending oversight requests which we received this month, but he did not press the Administrator to commit to responding by a specific date.
- Senator Gillibrand asked the Administrator to provide documents underlying the Superfund Task Force report and the Administrator responded that EPA will provide those documents by the end of the week.
- Senators Inhofe and Boozman both praised the Administration's end to the Sue and Settle practice and asked the Administror to tout the benefits to and reasons for ending it.
- Senator Booker raised EJ concerns about loosening agriculture worker protection standards and the prevalence of birth defects and autism in children living near Superfund sites.